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**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] Self-propelled AWP's such as scissor lifts are typically equipped with an apparatus that ~~prevents them from tipping when driven into a pothole or off a curb while the platform is elevated~~ provides additional support for the lift in the event that a wheel is driven into a hole. Such an apparatus works normally by reducing the ground clearance to less than one inch when the platform of the AWP is elevated beyond a certain height.

Please replace paragraph [0007] with the following amended paragraph:

[0007] Current designs are typically based on one of two concepts. A typical six-bar mechanism and a spring are provided to ensure the locking position. This design, however, suffers from excessive numbers of parts and consequently from cost and reliability. A typical four-bar mechanism incorporates a linear actuator linking two of its links. The actuator is either hydraulic or electrical. Drawbacks of this design, however, include ~~cost~~, reliability, and potential leakage of hydraulic fluid.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] As noted above, the pothole protection mechanism 20 serves to reduce the ground clearance typically to less than one inch when the platform 16 is elevated beyond a certain height. In this manner, the pothole protection mechanism 20 ~~prevents~~ provides additional support for the vehicle 10 from tipping in the event when a wheel is driven into a pothole or off a curb or the like while the platform 16 is elevated.